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Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Letter dated 25 October 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 35.

(*Signed*) Jeremiah **Manele**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

01-60472 (E) 291001

Annex to the letter dated 25 October 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Note verbale dated 25 October 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 25 October 2001, from the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands, Honourable Manasseh Sogavare MP, requesting the Secretary-General to send United Nations Observers to monitor the general elections in the Solomon Islands, which will take place on 5 December 2001.

This request is an illustration of the strong desire of the Government to ensure the integrity and complete transparency of the electoral process. It is also a critical election as its success would help the country to move forward with the peace process following two years of inter-ethnic conflict.

In this connection, the Chargé d'affaires a.i. has the further honour of requesting the Secretary-General to provide assistance to Solomon Islands and help to ensure that its general elections are conducted in a fair and orderly manner. In accordance with standing international practice, the Government of the Solomon Islands would be grateful for the dispatch of a needs assessment mission by the United Nations to discuss and liaise with the Chairman of the Electoral Commission, on the nature, scope and parameters of possible United Nations involvement in the electoral process.

Given the time constraints, the Government would highly appreciate it if the Secretary-General would dispatch this Mission at his earliest convenience.

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

Enclosure

Letter dated 25 October 2001 from the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands addressed to the Secretary-General

Solomon Islands will hold our regular general elections on 5 December 2001.

The Solomon Islands Electoral Commission, the legal authority for organizing regular elections, is determined to organize the elections in a completely transparent manner.

One way to achieve this and to ensure integrity of the process is to have international monitors to observe the elections.

I, in this regard, wish to officially request the United Nations to send observers for the 2001 national elections in Solomon Islands.

Your Excellency, I wish to thank your office in advance for any assistance you may render.

(*Signed*) Hon. Manasseh **Sogavare**
Prime Minister